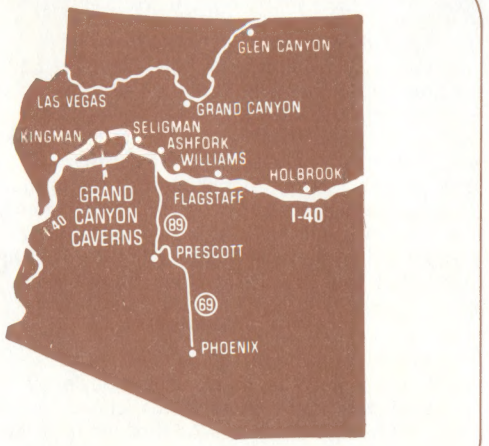

DISTANCES

From Seligman, Arizona	25 miles
From Williams, Arizona	66 miles
From Flagstaff, Arizona	96 miles
From Phoenix, Arizona	196 miles
From Kingman, Arizona	65 miles
From Las Vegas, Nevada	168 miles
From Grand Canyon, Arizona	123 miles
From Albuquerque, New Mexico	419 miles
From Los Angeles, California	423 miles

HORSES - RIDING STABLES - HORSES

Trail rides are available at the Caverns. Try something a little different, and see all the things you miss from Highway travel. Let our experienced wranglers guide you on horseback through the beautiful Juniper hills and scenic countryside. A day to remember at reasonable prices.

WESTERN STYLE BAR-B-Q

For groups of 20 or more people, the Caverns can make your next outdoor shin-dig a roaring success. Thick, juicy steaks barbequed over Juniper coals just the way you like 'em. All the trimmin's too, including cowboy beans, old fashioned fried biscuits and real cowboy coffee, boiled over an open fire just the way the cowboys used to do it. (Of course there's also iced tea for all you tenderfoots.) Reservations required.

Entrance 1927 - 1962

WHEN VISTING THE
GRAND CANYON CAVERNS
PLAN TO STAY AT THE

CAVERNS INN

The Caverns Inn Motel, at the Highway 66 entrance to the Grand Canyon Caverns, offers luxurious air-conditioned rooms and a full round of resort activities for your family.

Facilities include a heated swimming pool, tennis court, and shuffle board. The Caverns Inn Motel restaurant and coffee shop serves excellent food in a setting of spectacular Arizona desert beauty. A spacious cocktail lounge adjoins the restaurant. Take time to brouse through the Motel and Caverns Gift and Curio shops which carry a fine selection of souvenirs and authentic Arizona Indian artifacts.

Picnic and camping facilities are at the entrance to the Caverns building in a beautiful, comfortable setting. Our latest improvement is a fully stocked market with everything from your favorite soft drinks and beer to quality canned goods and sundries. Chevron service is available with regular and unleaded gasolines.

Fly your plane to the Grand Canyon Caverns. A 4,200 foot runway is immediately adjacent to the Caverns Inn Motel. Modern tiedowns are available.

The Caverns Inn Motel is within easy reach of all major Southwest activity centers. It's just a comfortable one-day drive from Alburquerque or Los Angeles.

Entrance 1962 - Present

GRAND CANYON CAVERNS

One of Arizona's Natural Wonders

Located Between
Seligman and Kingman, Arizona
On Old Highway 66

Open 7 Days A Week
Summer - 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. • Winter - 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Closed December 24th and 25th and
Last 3 Weeks of January

Phone: (602) 422-3223

THE HALLS OF GOLD

SNOWBALL PALACE

GRAND CANYON CAVERNS

Looking for beauty...and excitement? Discover the GRAND CANYON CAVERNS. The stunning splendor of this natural wonder is something you and your whole family will never forget. The magnificent cave formations and gorgeous colors leave a lasting impression of nature's wonder with every visitor.

Developing in size and beauty for over 300 million years, the Caverns were formed by the slow, but relentless action of water. Shells and skeletons of microscopic sea dwellers were deposited on the floor of ancient inland seas, forming limestone bedrock. When the seas receded, rain water oozing through primeval surface vegetation acquired carbon dioxide and formed a mild acid solution. The acid solution slowly trickled down into minute cracks and crevices in the limestone bedrock.

CREVICES BECOME CAVES

Over countless years, the acid-laden water dissolved the limestone bedrock, enlarging the crevices and forming underground water basins. The dazzling crystalline walls and pastel shades of the cave system resulted from the minerals deposited by dissolved limestone as the water evaporated. Volcanic action, including earthquakes, fashioned the underground water basins into cavern contours. Occurring eons ago, these violent upheavals of nature caused gigantic boulders to fall to the cave system floors, thus leaving immense and rugged rock ceilings of spectacular beauty.

The development of the Caverns closely paralleled that of the nearby Grand Canyon. The Colorado River has carved deeper and deeper into the rock of the Grand Canyon for millions of years. As the river cut ever lower, the water table of the surrounding countryside dropped accordingly. This steady lowering of the water table, coupled with the lack of rain on the Arizona desert, has created an atmosphere totally devoid of moisture in the Caverns. The Grand Canyon Caverns is one of the largest completely dry and well preserved cave systems in the world.

INHABITANTS

The Caverns had inhabitants long before the dawn of recorded history. The Redwall limestone walls hold fossils of many prehistoric sea and land dwellers. The largest of these fossils found in the Caverns, a giant ground sloth, was estimated to have lived over 20,000 years ago. Prehistoric American Indian tribes, long lost in antiquity, knew of both the Caverns and the Grand Canyon. The Hualapai Indians knew of the upper level of the Caverns long before the arrival of white men to the area. The tribe looked upon the Caverns as a revered and sacred place. Mystery and legend surround the Caverns even today. Elders of the Hualapai Tribe still caution the Tribe's young people that the original entrance to the first level of the caves is a sacred place and should be observed as such.

CONTINUED EXPLORATION

The existence of the Grand Canyon Caverns first became general knowledge in 1927. In that year a heavy rain widened the natural funnel shaped opening to the upper level of the cave system. A wood cutter for the Santa Fe Railroad found the entrance one evening while on his way to a "little game with the boys" at the nearby Yampai railroad siding house. The railroad workers and ranch hands who then explored the caves named them the Yampai Caverns after the nearby siding house.

Even today, exploration never ceases at the Grand Canyon Caverns. Intriguing drafts of air seeping through niches and floor fissures give credence to the theory that other caverns await discovery deep below. Recent electrical resistivity tests which measure the changes and the structure of the earth's crust have proven that these lower levels of the Caverns do exist.

The depth and unchanging humidity of the Caverns keep the underground temperature a cool and comfortable 56° F. Some of the most beautiful formations found in the Caverns were created as a result of both the stable temperature and the Cavern's atmosphere. An example of this is the pure white snowball-like mineral formations of selinite found in the Snowball Palace, one of the Cavern's many rooms. Selinite, a delicate mineral, loses its luster and eventually disintegrates outside the cavern. The selinite almost appears to melt before your eyes in the alien atmosphere.

THE CAVERNS TODAY

The present entrance to the Caverns was created to enable the installation of a specially-designed elevator to convey visitors to the Caverns' vast chambers...21 stories beneath the earth's surface. As you step from the elevator, you enter an underground world of indescribable beauty. A precisely-engineered lighting system accentuates the infinite variations of natural grandeur. Paved walkways lead into the Caverns' many rooms and halls. No expense or effort has been spared in order to make your visit as comfortable and as enjoyable as possible.

The guides who lead each tour through the Grand Canyon Caverns are expert on the remarkable story of the development of the Caverns and the history of each dramatically beautiful room. A complete tour of the Caverns takes only 45 minutes...45 minutes of enchantment for the whole family. You may, however, remain at the Caverns as long as you wish. The splendor of this natural wonder creates memories you will always cherish.

CHAPEL OF THE AGES